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A system for and method of providing a wireless communications air interface with variable data rate by switching the bit time relates to wireless communications systems and methods where low data rate services, such as, voice and high data rate services, such as, data are communicated over a common air interface. This air interface includes a control channel which assigns and changes the data rate to each of several logical communication channels on a per channel basis. As such, logical communication channels can be set to a low data rate for low data rate services and to a high data rate for high data rate services.